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THE GUILFORD GAZETTE



November 2021 Issue

A New Bridge for the Weeks Forest Carriage Trail

BY SUSAN BONTHRON

If you have taken a stroll on the Carriage Trail in Weeks Forest during the past several weeks, you probably noticed a new bridge that crosses a stream on the path not far from the Trail entrance. That stream had been wearing away the path, which made walking across the gully a bit difficult.

Maintaining the Carriage Trail is one of the responsibilities of the Guilford Conservation Commission. Thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers, led by Conservation Commissioners Steve Soszynski, Dave Eastman, and Bevan Quinn, along with Steve's son Andy, the new bridge now makes the Trail safer and guarantees that any

further erosion of the path will not interfere with the use of the Trail.



Building the bridge was an adventure, and an example of how Guilford pulls together to get the job done. Several volunteers offered donations. Ned Childs had some black locust blowdown on his property that he cut and pulled out of the woods. He donated several logs for the bridge frame. Conservation Commissioner Bill Jewell donated wood for the bridge railing. Steve Soszynski bought the hemlock decking from Hamilton Lumber. Mike Tkaczyk and Dan Cheslawski from MT3 helped with getting the heavy locust beams to the site and bringing in material.

First the locust beams had to be milled, and hardware bought for assembling the structure. Dave and Steve assembled the bridge at Steve's house with Bevan's help (see photo). Thinking ahead, they built it on a large trailer so that Steve could bring the bridge to the trail! Steve, Andy, and Bevan assembled the bridge parts on site (see photo) after the supporting beams were placed by MT3.

An attractive, rustic, functional bridge now graces the Carriage Trail (see photo) and the town thanks all the volunteers for their donations of time, materials, money, and effort to get the job done.

Be sure to visit the Trail and check out the new bridge soon!



Top: Dave and Bevan working on the bridge at Steve's house

Bottom: Bevan and Andy assembling the bridge

(Photos courtesy of Steve Soszynski)

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The *Guilford Gazette* is happy to print photos and articles submitted by the public. Please be aware that *the Gazette staff cannot be responsible for photographs and names printed without the permission of participants*. It is the responsibility of the writers and photographers to make sure they have permission to print.

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The Guilford Gazette is an all-volunteer newspaper that comes out four times a year. That's a big commitment for the four or five regulars on the staff, who take care of editing, production, advertising, printing and mailing it to every Guilford household. Here's how you can help:

• **Prepare the printed newspaper for mailing** by helping us with labels. If enough people show up, this only takes a few hours and it's a chance to socialize and get a sneak preview of the paper! Contact Cathi Wilken at the library [257-4603] to find out how you can help.

• **Send in articles.** This is a chance to let us know what your group, organization or business is doing in Guilford! Or perhaps you'd like to share a reminiscence, poem, or story with your fellow Guilfordites. Just limit your entry to no more than 600 words. You can submit articles (editable word processing document such as Word or Google docs) to the Gazette by email to gazette@guilfordfree.org, or you can send a printed copy to Susan Bonthron (108 S. Belden Hill Rd., Guilford, VT 05301), or Gazette c/o Guilford Free Library (4024 Guilford Center Rd, Guilford, VT 05301). Please DO pay attention to deadlines!

• **Join our staff.** If you have an interest in becoming a staff member who can help with editing, advertising or production, we'd love you to join us at our "second Thursday of the month" meetings at 9AM at the Guilford Country Store. Meetings start on time and last no more than one hour.

• **Donate.** The Gazette always welcomes donations of any size. They help pay for postage and printing. Checks made out to The Guilford Gazette should be sent to Guilford Free Library, 4024 Guilford Center Road, Guilford, 05301.

Thanks in advance for your help in keeping our town newspaper alive and thriving!



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Guilford Receives American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) Funding

BY RICHARD WIZANSKY

There is very good news for Guilford businesses, organizations and residents who have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

On March 10, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the Senate-amended H.R. 1319, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP). The ARP provides \$1.9 trillion in additional relief to respond to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). This follows the enactment of nearly \$4 trillion in COVID relief in 2020. President Joe Biden called for Congress to enact the ARP to provide relief for individuals and business struggling



due to COVID-19, as well as to achieve other priorities of the Biden Administration and Congress. ARP includes provisions on aid to state and local governments, hard-hit industries and communities, tax changes affecting individuals and business, and other provisions.

Congress enacted criteria that governs who and what projects are eligible for funding. The most significant criterion is that a business, organization or individual must have been negatively impacted by the pandemic. For instance:

- a business might have lost revenue because it had to close, or
- a parent lost salary because he or she had to stop working to be at home with children attending school remotely, or
- a nonprofit lost revenue due to having to close or because of lost fundraising revenue.

Several weeks ago, the state distributed

\$315,232.07 in ARP funds to Guilford. In the early fall of 2022, the state will distribute \$315,232.06; for a two-year total of \$630,464.13. The legislation mandates that the Selectboard is solely responsible for the distribution of these funds. All funds must be distributed by the end of 2026.

At its meeting on September 13, the Selectboard deliberated over whether the funds should be used to fund one or two large investments for our town's benefit or to spread the funds more widely to help as many qualifying organizations, businesses

please email Peder Rude, Town Administrator, at pederrudeatguilfordvt.net or call him at 254-6857, extension 105.

Applications for first round funding may be submitted from October 12 through December 1. The application is on the town website at guilfordvt.net and in hard copy at the town office.

The selectboard has established a schedule for the first round of applying for and receiving funding. The current schedule is in the box, above.

The Selectboard wishes to emphasize

Guilford's Current ARP Application and Funding Schedule:

October 12:	Round 1 applications for funding begin to be accepted
January 2, 2022:	Final day to submit applications
January, 2022:	Selectboard reviews applications
January, 2022:	Potential applicant interviews
February, 2022:	First round funding awards
August and September, 2022:	Round 2 applications begin to be accepted

and individuals as possible. The consensus of the Board was to do the latter to begin with—spread the funding widely, using an application process. The Selectboard intends that a second phase of the distribution of funds will focus on projects that will have a wide community impact and benefit the town generally.

The selectboard is also very interested in hearing from townspeople about how they think the funding should be distributed. If you have ideas for how ARP funding could help remediate the negative impact of the pandemic on Guilford and its residents and/or ideas for how the funds can be used to provide the broadest community impact,

that there is no need to hurry to request and distribute the funds. The Selectboard has until December 2024 to identify where the funding is going and until December 31, 2026 to expend it.

All information about ARP funding is posted on the Guilford website: guilfordvt.net under the ARP tab. The Selectboard will also employ additional means to spread this important news to town residents over the coming months.

Let's all think creatively and strategically about how to use ARP funds to make Guilford an even more lovely, welcoming town to live in!

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Fire Department Muster

BY SUSAN BONTHRON



A dramatic moment during the muster!



The Guilford Volunteer Fire Department won the three-town Firemen's Muster this year at the Guilford Fair, beating firemen from Dummerston and Colrain, MA. Bevan Quinn provided photos.

Congratulations, GVFD! We are proud of our volunteer firemen, and thank them for their skill, dedication, and time.

In other Fire Department news: The Boot Drop was a successful fundraiser. The new roof for the Fire Department has been put off until next year.

Fire Department Statistics

July:

11 fire
16 medical calls
3 mutual aid

August:

10 fire
9 medical calls
3 mutual aid

September:

9 fire
9 medical calls
1 mutual aid

Left: The Fire Department Muster participants: Jason Willette, Paul Walker, Logan George, Jeremy Lackey, and John Franklin

On the next page: Logan George, John Franklin, Jason Willette

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Christ Church Guilford Society on the Move!

BY VALERIE ABRAHAMSEN, ThD

Christ Church Guilford is an area treasure! While the 1817 building is owned by the Trustees of the Episcopal Diocese of Vermont, the Christ Church Guilford Society is its manager, having been chartered by a group of citizens in 1951 as a nonprofit organization authorized by the State of Vermont. The rejuvenated Board of Directors has been working for the past few months to redefine the Society's mission and determine how the historic building can meet the needs of our neighbors in southern Vermont.

Here is a partial list of what we on the Board have lately been up to:

- We are prioritizing improvements to the physical plant based on the recent report by the Preservation Trust of

Vermont. Relatedly, we are doing research on potential grant support for the work.

- A new treasurer has been recruited and has hit the ground running developing an electronic finance system and regular reports to the Board.

- A new history of the church, which highlights the Abenaki heritage of the land on which it sits, has been posted online on the About page of the St. Michael's Episcopal Church website.

- The Christ Church Guilford Society website is being revamped and updated.

- Board members met with a semi-local structural engineer (who loves Christ Church), who offered us not only good advice and pointers but also his help in the future if we need it.

- Board members also obtained helpful advice and direction from a staff member from Partners for Sacred Places, a nonprofit organization based in Philadelphia.

The Board has agreed that our building and grounds are most conducive to hosting lectures, concerts, and exhibits, as well as continuing to hold weddings, funerals, and services, as it always has. We hope to start holding events, including those with a social and racial justice focus, once we have done some important repairs and determined that the building is safe to use. We are tentatively planning to sponsor events in the spring – stay tuned! As a nonprofit with no paid staff, we will most likely be able to mount events at relatively low cost, thereby enabling the offerings of individuals and groups that might not be able to hold their events elsewhere.

To this end, we are beginning to form committees through which to do our work. We would love to have Guilford residents and those from surrounding communities join us. Committees will include finance, buildings and grounds, fundraising/grants, and social media/publicity. If you have interest, expertise and/or energy in any of these areas, or questions, please contact Valerie Abrahamson at valabrah@gmail.com.

As always, monetary donations to support our beautiful building and its mission are greatly appreciated! A check can be made payable to the Christ Church Guilford Society and mailed to us at 16 Bradley Ave., Brattleboro VT 05301. Thank you!

Fire Department muster, continued





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How's Your Internet?

BY ZON EASTES, GUILFORD SELECTBOARD MEMBER

The Deerfield Valley Communications Union District (DVCUD, dba DVFiber) Governing Board recently established an executive committee, which is authorized to move the organization between full governing board monthly meetings. As Guilford's representative to DVCUD, I am pleased to be appointed to this working group.

The positions of chair and vice chair, automatically appointed as voting members, lead the committee. That's Ann Manwaring, Wilmington, and Steven John, Marlboro. State law also prescribes that the clerk and treasurer of the CUD also serve as ex-officio members. Thus, Donna Sebastian, clerk, Wardsboro, and Paul Butler, treasurer, Marlboro, have assumed their roles.

The board elected five at-large voting members: David Cherry, Windham; Zon Eastes, Guilford; Phil Edelstein, Whitingham; Ellen Siedman, Londonderry; and Omar Smith, Readsboro. Additionally, the chairs of the three standing committees serve in an ex-officio capacity: Communications Committee chair Diane McCormick, Dover; Finance Committee chair Thomas Almeida, Wardsboro; and Operations Committee chair David Jones, Halifax.

ARPA Funds Change the Picture

For all its horrors, COVID-19 has shone a very bright light on the need for high-speed access to the Internet for education, work from home, and health care. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) intends to address the crisis effects of COVID-19. The \$1.9 trillion act includes \$10 billion for capital projects,



including extending high-speed broadband to unserved and underserved addresses, largely in rural America (read: Vermont).

ARPA will significantly shorten the time required for the construction of a fiber-based DVCUD network. DVFiber has applied to the state for ARPA funding for preconstruction planning grants that include high level design for all our member towns and engineering for the six least well served towns in our district (Guilford is not among those six.). Once the funds have been awarded, DVFiber will move to construction in those six towns, finalize preconstruction for the remaining 18, and then build in those towns as well.

Working with our partner

On July 1, DVFiber joined forces with Great Works Internet (GWI) to build the systems that will provide broadband access to every home and business in our 24 member town district. DVFiber and GWI are completing negotiations on a master agreement supported by a series of Statements of Work, each of which will detail expectations, responsibilities, and evaluation measures for the various components of

the project. DVFiber works closely with our legal team and industry consultants to construct agreements that advance the DVCUD vision, mission, and principles.

It is important to note that, while negotiations are between DVFiber and GWI, there is a raft of old and new laws that influence decision making and actual outcomes. The state has established a new oversight group, the Vermont Community Broadband Board (VCBB), to steer developments for all of Vermont's nine CUDs. Its mission is to develop policies and programs to assist community-based organizations like DVFiber in their efforts to bring fiber to the home (FTTH) to their member towns.

VCBB will distribute federal ARPA funds allotted by the Vermont legislature for broadband expansion via grants. In addition, the board will offer technical assistance, high level coordination between other regional efforts, and legal advice.

Governor Scott appointed Patty Richards, general manager of Washington Electric Cooperative and Dan Nelson, Vermont Electric Power Company vice president of Technology, to VCBB. The legislature appointed Holly Groschner, former Vermont PBS chief executive officer, and Brian Otley, former senior vice president and chief operating officer of Green Mountain Power. The Vermont Communications Union District Association (VCUDA) appointed Laura Sibilia, state representative from Dover and vice chair of the Vermont House Energy & Technology Committee.

Continued on next page

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Three Founding Members Are Retiring from the BBCC Board

BY RICK ZAMORE

With sadness and deep gratitude, the Broad Brook Community Center announces the departure of Bobbie Haumann, Don McLean, and Gail Nunziata from its board of trustees. All three joined the organization at its inception in 2015 and have fully served the two three-year terms allowed by the organization's bylaws.

Bobbie Haumann was raised on the family farm on Fitch Road, where she lives today. She was instrumental in facilitating the transfer of the Grange building from Guilford's Broad Brook Grange to the BBCC. As Grange Master (like her father), she negotiated the sale of the building with the Vermont State Grange, which had to approve the sale of the property. By serving as both Grange Master and BBCC trustee, Bobbie helped arrange the partnership agreement between the two organizations,

which gives the Grange a home for its activities in perpetuity.

Don McLean served as BBCC vice president for five years and is currently board president. The BBCC was very fortunate to have the services of this man who has made volunteering and leadership roles a way of life. (Friends of Music at Guilford, the ELF science program at the school, the Guilford Center Stage theatrical productions, and the year-long Guilford 250th Celebration are examples of programs which would not have happened without Don's tireless efforts to create and sustain them.) Don played the major role in writing the BBCC's bylaws and securing its 501c3 nonprofit status from the IRS. He has been very active in fundraising, publicity, recruiting new board members, and paying close attention to the multitude of tasks and details necessary to keep an organization running efficiently.

Gail Nunziata has made a number of key

contributions to the BBCC's success. She is a veteran of many boards and arts organizations — former Executive Director at Latchis Arts and Theater, past board chair of the Vermont Arts Council, and founding board member of Epsilon Spires in Brattleboro. She brought her professionalism and outstanding fundraising skills to the BBCC, and she inspired other board members to do their best work. Gail understands the need to think big, plan for the long term, and pursue every potential source of funding. She contributed her energy and her good ideas to the organization's administration and to its communications, whether grant applications, publicity, or letters to donors.

The three trustees are leaving big shoes for the BBCC to fill. We plan to have some new board members to announce in the near future.

How's Your Internet, continued

The governor also appointed Christine Hallquist as executive director of VCB. Hallquist was the chief executive officer of Vermont Electric Co-op and more recently has been working for two CUDS--Lamoille FiberNet and NEK Broadband. Rob Fish, who has been assisting CUDs since they were

authorized by law, continues as rural broadband technical assistance specialist.

Learn more and get involved

A lot is underway! Intrigued? To learn more, visit our website at DVFiber.net. Sign up for our newsletter to stay informed.

We are always looking for people to contribute and serve on the district's three


committees (Communications, Finance, and Operations). There is plenty of work ahead to secure broadband for the region and win customers to DVFiber. If you would like to get involved, please contact Zon Eastes at 802.380.9550 or at zoneastes.dvfiber@gmail.com.



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Guilford's First Town-Wide Yard Sale

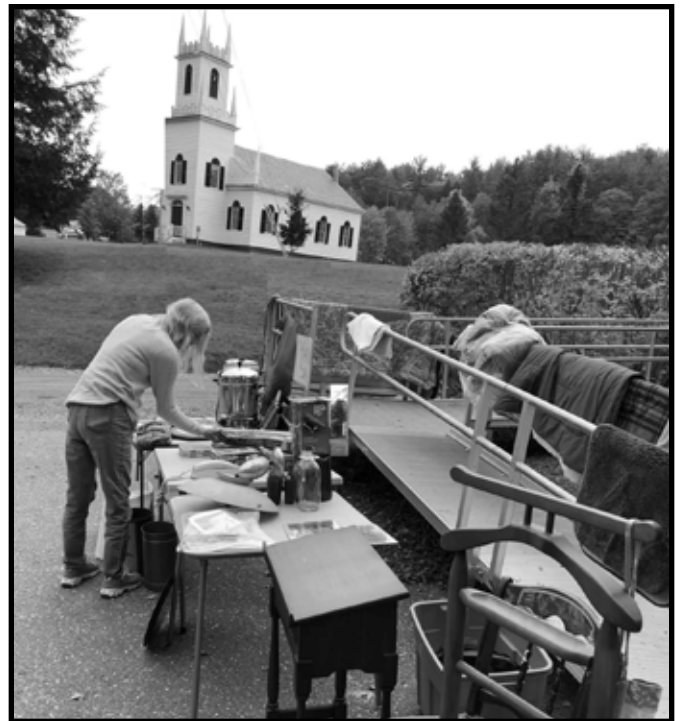
BY JOSLYN MCINTYRE

Cow decor. Traditional wooden snowshoes. Baby bibs. Snowmobile parts. There was something for everyone at the first annual town-wide yard sale on Saturday, October 9th. This writer even found a maroon Lodge dutch oven to accompany her orphaned blue Lodge lid!

Seventeen households participated in the yard sale, which stretched from Wild Turkey Road to Lee Road and all parts in between. For those intrepid enough to venture all the way up Marynuk or to the far reaches of Packer Corners, it was a chance not just to score some fantastic stuff but to get to know our neighbors a little better on a fine fall day.

Organizer Ashley Kane summed up the spirit of local camaraderie: "I met a lot of people I hadn't met before organizing this yard sale. I actually went to their houses to deliver signs, maps, and price stickers. Next year we will have it better advertised and try to get even more sales. However, 17 for the first year—not bad!"

Thank you to Ashley for all her hard work and for starting a tradition that's sure to make Guilford a destination every fall for years to come.



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Update from Our State Representative

BY SARA COFFEY

This fall has been all about reconnecting with colleagues, neighbors and friends to share ideas, celebrate community, build coalitions and prepare for the 2022 legislative session. This pandemic has revealed the gaps and inequities in our systems, and we must not just return to normal, but build back better. There is so much work to do, yet I am optimistic because I believe that every challenge also presents an opportunity.

There are many opportunities to get involved and to create the change we want to see. Whether it's volunteering for a community organization, delivering a meal or giving a ride to a neighbor in need, serving on a local board or participating in community conversations or actions—it all adds up to make a difference.

During the off-session, I have continued to be very engaged with my legislative colleagues through the Windham County delegation and House Democratic Caucus, as well as through my work as Co-Chair of the Women's Legislative Caucus and as a member of the Social Equity Caucus leadership team, whether it is using our voice to speak out publicly to urge the Governor to extend the emergency motel housing program with FEMA funds for the most vulnerable or to bring stakeholders together

to address sexual assault in the Vermont National Guard.

I also have been hearing from and meeting with community members and groups to help inform my legislative work in the coming session. I encourage constituents to join me for my monthly coffee hours this fall to discuss the issues with neighbors and

on Front Porch Forum and on my Facebook page. If you email me, I will be happy to send you a link.

During the session I send out regular newsletters via email with policy updates and information about programs, grants and emergency assistance. If you would like to receive them, please email me with your email address or go to my website (www.saracoffeyvt.com) to sign up.

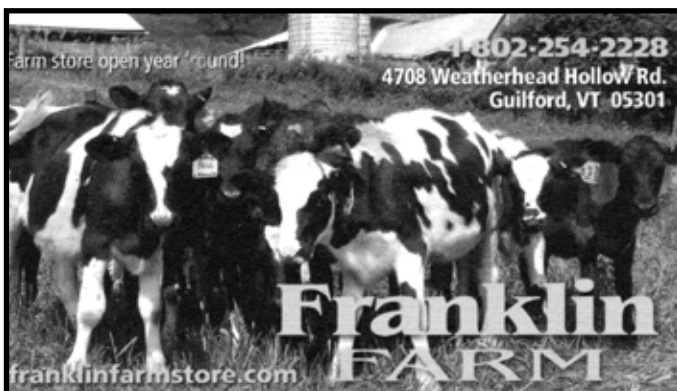
Fostering vibrant and resilient communities and achieving equity in our society isn't the work of only a few leaders in the legislature; this work is for all of us. I hope that you will join me in this work by learning and engaging in conversations with your neighbors, getting involved with a local community organization, contacting your elected leaders at every level and continuing with collective action. By working together, we can address our economic recovery, challenge systemic inequities and improve the health and well-being of our communities.

It's an honor to serve Guilford and Vernon in the People's House. Please stay healthy and stay in touch!

Sara Coffey, Vermont State Representative, Windham-1/ Guilford and Vernon
email: SCoffey@leg.state.vt.us
Phone: 802-257-0288 (home)
Facebook: @SaraCoffeyforStateRep



invited guest speakers. This fall we will meet via Zoom on the third Tuesday of each month (October 19, November 16 and December 21) from 6:30-7:30PM. I post meeting reminders with the link



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AVOID THE UNEXPECTED

Did You Try Calling Guilford Cares?

BY LEAH GESSNER

"Try calling Guilford Cares" is a familiar piece of advice that people give around town. We like to think that we are well-known for supporting community members in many ways.

We still do hear, though, about folks who needed the kind of help we provide yet didn't contact us. Here are some common concerns that come up:

"I am unable to get to the Guilford Cares Food Pantry on Thursdays between 5:00 and 6:00."

Try calling Pat Haine, Pantry Director, 257-0626. She will go over the shopping list and arrange for home delivery.

"My wife is having a knee replacement in two weeks. Her doctor told her she will need a walker, shower chair and raised toilet seat. Where can I get them and how much will it cost? My doctor claims I can get them from Guilford Cares."

We have an extensive inventory of recycled and donated medical equipment which we loan at no charge. Just call 579-1350, let us know what you need and when you can pick up.

"I have a bunch of physical therapy appointments at the hospital over the next several weeks and no way to get there."

Guilford Cares provides medical appointment rides. Call 579-1350, give us the list of dates and times and we will coordinate volunteers to drive you round trip, door-to-door.

"I am worried about my elderly father who lives alone. I can be there some of the time, but he needs much more help than I can give."

Call 579-1350 to request a contact list of experienced, local homecare providers. This may also be a good time to ask Guilford Cares to arrange for a medical alert device.

"It would really help me to be able to do errands and grocery shopping at least once per week on a predictable schedule. I hate to keep calling my son and neighbors. I worry that they are burning out."

This is precisely why we have a regular weekly shopping trip. Call 579-1350 to join in as a rider or to give the volunteer drivers a list of items to pick up and deliver. We can also arrange for rides at other times.

"My mother lives alone. She has several medical conditions, which make her anxious. She needs some professional help to reassure her in person and assess if she needs to see the doctor."

Call 579-1350 and find out if our Community Nurse can help by starting with a visit to her house.

"I love my house, but it is depressing being alone in it most of the time. I would welcome some company."

Call 579-1350 and inquire about getting a "friendly visitor" to spend time with you talking, doing activities, or taking a ride.

So, don't hesitate to call. When you do, you will get the personal, caring attention everyone deserves. The same person answers the phone every time. No need to explain and re-explain who you are. If you have a need beyond our scope, we are prepared to supply referrals.

You can also contact us at guilfordcares-vt@gmail.com and on our website at www.guilfordcares.com.

Support from donors keeps these free services going, so please consider making a

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StoryWalk at GCS

BY SARAH ROSOW AND ANGELA SAVIANO

Guilford Central School is excited to introduce our new and improved StoryWalk© and is grateful to our partners who helped make it a success.

A StoryWalk© allows children (and adults!) to enjoy a story, the outdoors, and physical activity all at once. Participants walk from post to post, reading a page of a picture book at each one. The StoryWalk© was developed and popularized by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, and they have been installed in 50 states and 13 countries. We are excited to have one in Guilford!

Our StoryWalk© started out in 2020 as laminated pages velcroed to stakes. School classes and families from the community welcomed it as a fun Covid-friendly outdoor activity. After chasing down pages blown away by the wind and unearthing pages from the snow, we decided that a more permanent installation was in order.



Pre-K Students enjoy the StoryWalk.

Dwayne Johnson volunteered his time to build the new posts, and Mike Tkaczyk and MT3 installed them this past summer. We would like to extend our deep and heartfelt gratitude to Dwayne and Mike for making this project possible. Thank you as well to the Selectboard for granting us permission to put part of the StoryWalk© on town land.

Classes “walk the story” during school hours, and community members are invited to visit when students are not in school. The first post is near the shed on the edge of the forest with parking close by, and the walk wraps clockwise around the field between the school and town office. We change the story monthly. Please come enjoy it!



Third grade students read I will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato, the September StoryWalk© book.

November

BY ROYALL TYLER , 1817

Come old November, since again
We meet upon a withered plain,
Give me thy hand — I'll not repine,
Perhaps thy influence is divine.

Yet such thy rude and wild career,
Such are thy ruins of the year:
I'd almost stoop and bless the hour,
To see thee robbed of so much power.

A few days past the fields were green,
And every beauty might be seen;
The flower and vine ambitious vied,
In charms of youth and summer's pride:
The woods and fields were gaily dressed,
And musick soothed the mind to rest.

But now, alas! the scene is changed,
And nature almost seems deranged.
In throwing round thy frosty spear,
The vine and leaves, the grass and ear;
The woods and plains, and village green,
Reflect a dull and blighted sheen.

Thus early summer's blossoms fade —
Thus the bower, and thus the shade —
The songsters of the woods are still,
No longer echo to the rill —
And such is man — his prime today,
To-morrow sees him swept away.



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STATE HISTORIC MARKER FOR ABIJAH & LUCY TERRY PRINCE UNVEILED

BY SHANTA LEE GANDER

October 19th marked the celebration and unveiling of a state historic marker recognizing Abijah Prince (c.1706-94) and Lucy Terry Prince (c. 1730-1821), Guilford residents and early landowners. Abijah served in the French & Indian

historic marker is a powerful symbol on many fronts, especially due to its location at the Guilford Welcome Center off exit 91, where an estimated 800,000 individuals pass through annually. It communicates a clear message that, as the whitest state in

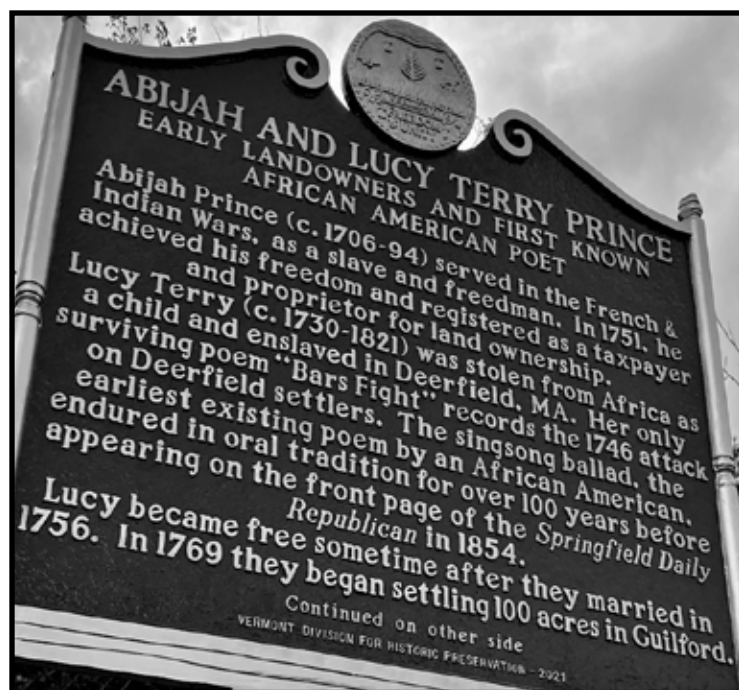
the union, we recognize the role early Black lives played in creating the identity of our little state. The historic marker also goes beyond an empty gesture by expressing that as a state, we welcome diversity.

The celebration of the unveiling featured reflections from Gretchen Gerzina, author of the Pulitzer Prize-nominated book Mr. and Mrs. Prince: How An

Words Trail Advisory Member; and Curtiss Reed Jr., Executive Director of Vermont Partnership for Fairness and Diversity and the driving force behind several state initiatives, including the Vermont African American Heritage Trail. The event was called with traditional African drumming by Vermont resident Sayan Camara. Verandah Porche, poet and Guilford Selectboard Vice-chair, emceed the festivities.

October's event was one of many happenings this year marking the 200th anniversary of the death of Lucy Terry Prince. In recognition of the Princes during this bicentennial year, the Guilford Selectboard voted in May 2021 to proclaim July 11th "Abijah and Lucy Terry Prince Day" to honor the contributions they (and other individuals of color) have made to Guilford. In the same month, the Sunderland Selectboard also adopted a proclamation in their town to honor Lucy Terry Prince on July 11. These efforts were further supported by Vermont's State Legislature. State Representatives Sara Coffey of Guilford and Kathleen James, Seth Bongartz and David Durfee, who represent Sunderland, completed a joint House and Senate resolution to honor Abijah and Lucy Terry Prince.

The creation of the Abijah Prince and Lucy Terry Prince historic marker was made possible by the efforts of many dedicated community groups and individuals working together as a part of the



Side 1 of the marker

Wars and his wife Lucy Terry Prince was the first known African poet in the United States. This event was hosted by Brattleboro Words Trail, the Town of Guilford, and the Guilford Historical Society.

Within this moment in our country's history, the Abijah and Lucy Terry Prince

Extraordinary Eighteenth Century Family Moved Out of Slavery And Into Legend; Shanta Lee Gander, poet and author of GHETTOCLAUSTROPHOBIA: Dreamin of Mama While Trying to Speak Woman in Woke Tongues (Diode Editions, 2021), multidisciplinary artist, and Brattleboro

Continued on next page

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Message from the Fair Committee

BY BELINDA LASHWAY

On behalf of the Guilford Fair Association, I'd like to thank everyone who took time to bring their exhibits to Fitch Hall this year! It's wonderful to see so many amazing quilts, knit and crocheted items, youth artwork and handicrafts, photography, pottery, blown glass, pickles, dilly beans, jams, and more jams, beautiful floral arrangements and, of course, mouth-watering vegetables. We appreciate the time it takes to create, cultivate and process these items and are so happy that you've all brought them out to share with the rest of us!

We think that neighbors sharing their skills with one another at the Fair is just one of the things that makes the Guilford Fair, and Guilford, so special!! We look forward to seeing the fruits of your winter crafting and planning at the 2022 Fair!

Some Fair Contest Results

Here are just a few of the results from contests at the Fair.

Scarecrow Contest: Youth winners:

- 1st place: "Scarecrow's Day Off" by Hugo & Asa Taggart
2nd place: "Rhinestone Cowboy" by Vega Valentine

Scarecrow Contest: Adult winners:

- 1st place: snake by Heather Frost
2nd place: spider by Harry & Nancy Evans

King Arthur Baking Contest:

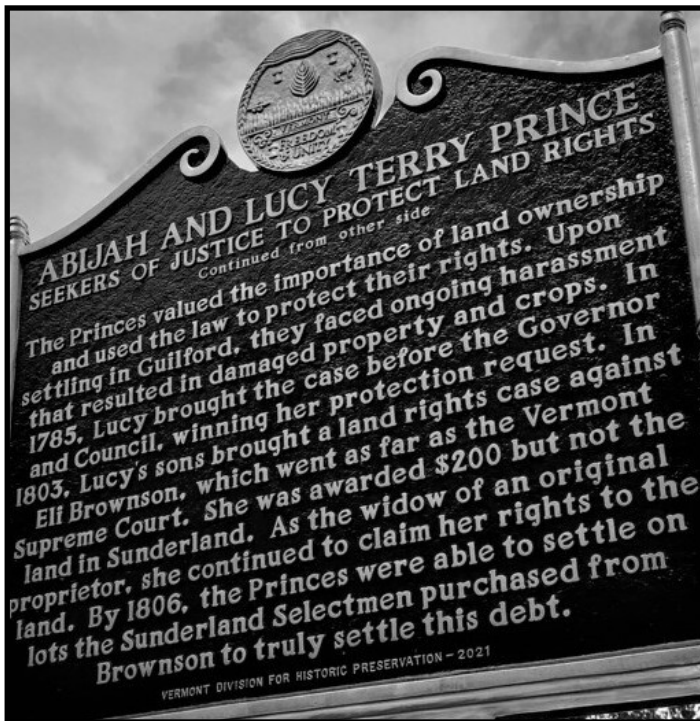
Youth winners - Cinnamon Rolls:

- 1st place: Elise Kersey-Beard
2nd place: Sarah Coombs
3rd place: Guilford Central School 6th Grade

King Arthur Baking Contest:

Adult winners - Hand Pies:

- 1st place: Mary Wallace Collins
2nd place: Laurel Davidson
3rd place: Beverly Barrington



Side 2 of the marker

State Historic Marker, continued

Brattleboro Words Project, funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Princes' historic site marker is destined to become a popular stop on the Vermont African American Heritage Trail.

The story of the Princes is a part of the larger audio mapping of the Brattleboro words Trail (<http://brattleborowords.org/>), an evolving

project sparked by a National Endowment for the Humanities challenge grant (2017-2021), and founded and run by the Brattleboro Historical Society, the Brattleboro Literary Festival, Brooks Memorial Library, Write Action, and Marlboro College. This partnership also produced the book *Print Town: Brattleboro's Legacy of Words*.

We encourage all Guilford residents to visit this important piece of Vermont history at the Guilford Welcome Center. Individuals can also choose their own adventure with the Brattleboro Words Trail, which has 100+audio stories accessible through the website: <https://brattleboro.stqry.app/1> and its free GPS-triggered Apple and Android mobile app for self-guided audio explorations of America's most storied small town.

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Getting Back to School for GCS

BY JOSLYN MCINTYRE

September 1st was an exciting moment for Guilford Central School: the return to full-time in-person learning after a pandemic year full of uncertainty. While the pandemic may not be over, the collaborative efforts of families, school administration, and, most importantly, teachers created a successful first few months of eager in-person learning.

"We have all the students back in the building," says Principal John Gagnon, "and it's a tremendous and exciting change from last September, when we began the year with only 60 percent of students participating in in-person learning." Similar to last year are COVID protocols, masks, and continuing to be diligent about safety and health measures. And now GCS is back to doing what it does so well: providing the best possible learning environment for Guilford's kids both indoors and out. Gagnon says: "We'll continue to strengthen our nature-based learning practices with outdoor classrooms, farm-to-school activities, and interesting inquiry-based projects for our kids."

Here's what else the school's teaching staff has to say about the ways GCS has stayed the same, what looks a little different, and what they hope the rest of this school year will bring.

Pre-K: Emma Hallowell

"This year, I hope the natural world will continue to offer us opportunities for awe and wonder. I'm sure we won't be disappointed. So far we've encountered surprising ant invasions, rogue monarch caterpillar chrysalis, wild worms, and many chipmunk sightings!"

Kindergarten: Maira Arteaga

"I went from first grade last year to kindergarten this year, and we're having so much fun playing and learning. The amount of time we spend outdoors in our spaces has stayed the same. I am really excited to see our work continue to grow, and with it, our students. I hope this year

continues to bring togetherness."

1st grade: Maggie Hansen

"Last year I was teaching grades remotely, working with students from Guilford, Putney, and Vernon. This school year, I am back at GCS teaching first grade, and I am so happy to be back in person. This year, my hope is for students to have fun, stay healthy, learn, cook together, and spend time outdoors."

2nd grade: Kristin Deslauriers

"We have so much more time outside now, which is amazing! Second grade has a brand new outdoor space this year, and our class is already doing so much to make it our own. What hasn't changed? Our class is a family and always will be. I hope to have a year that is filled with growth, kindness, and lots of fun!"



Prek2. Playing in our blocks area



Kindergarteners arranging flowers for the Polly Put the Kettle On Exhibit at the fair



A second grader with his potato harvest

Continued on next page



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Getting Back to School, continued

3rd grade: Sarah Landers

"The biggest change is definitely wearing masks indoors. The kids are so great with this task, but it still feels very different and hard. Still, our classroom is all about creativity and fun! That will never go away! Using our woods space and teaching in our outdoor classroom makes things so much more accessible and takes the pressure off of mask-wearing. I truly hope that this year will make our community whole again, so we can get back to our awesome school where kids feel loved and safe and can learn in creative ways."

4th grade: Hillary Katz

"What a gift to be all together to feed off each other's energies, share ideas, and get to know one another genuinely! I hope this year will bring lots of solid relationships between teachers and students—and between students themselves. That part of school has been

sorely missed the past couple of years, and we are all hungry for it!"

6th grade: Amy Skolnick

"This school year looks very similar to last year—everyone wearing masks, learning happening both indoors and outdoors, and kids happy to be at school and engaged in learning! I hope this year will continue to bring ample opportunities for students to connect with each other and their environment in meaningful ways."

Library: Angela Saviano

"This year, students are actually going into the library, and that's very exciting! We're still spending some of our class time outdoors, with a canopied space right outside of the library. The book wagon that traveled to the outdoor classrooms last year now just gets rolled right out the door to display a bunch of books. Kids have access to these as well as the books and programs inside, while they also have lots of space and fresh air."

Music: Steve Damon

"Please look at my last name and spell it backwards. Yes, I am a *nomad* this year. Music is the most dangerous subject to teach during an airborne-caused pandemic, since singing and playing wind instruments send aerosols throughout the room. Because of this, singing, dancing, and wind-instrument playing will take place outside until weather makes that impossible. One thing has stayed the same: the students' enthusiasm and the town's love of music. Teaching music is my passion. When GCS students match my excitement, I get more excited, which excites the kids, which... you get the point."

Art: Tessa Carpenter

"I spent last year teaching art remotely. I am back at school (!!!) in the art room as well as utilizing the outdoor spaces. I am SO excited to witness the

Continued on next page



Second graders dig for potatoes



Third graders harvesting kale for kale chips

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6th grade harvesting beets, carrots, and cabbage they planted last year as 5th graders!

excitement, ingenuity, and curiosity of our students as they create. (... AND loads of new disinfecting practices between classes!) I try to create an environment that nurtures student exploration, expression, and discovery through creative practices. This year, I hope to get outside more and to support creative, expressive problem-solvers who feel safe making mistakes on their journey of growth and learning!”

PE: Johanna Wells

“Being new, my own environment has changed. For our students, I probably do things a little differently than teachers in previous years, but I trust they are able to enjoy being active and learning in our PE classes together. We do still have to wear masks inside for PE,



Sixth graders with their freshly baked cinnamon rolls

but can be moving and playing, while trying to keep distance as much as possible. When we go outside for PE—which most

classes have been able to do frequently this fall—we are able to have more mask breaks, with more space and freedom during our activities.”

Farm to School: Sarah Rosow

“We’ve all been forced to be more creative and spend more time outside. For the Farm to School Program, this means more cooking outdoors—salsa with ingredients fresh from the garden, tea water boiled in the Kelly Kettle poured over garden mint, and lots of cooking over fires. Something that’s stayed the same? Lots of time in the garden...the joy of digging potatoes never changes. This year, I hope for safe and happy kids, lots of enthusiasm for cooking and gardening, and brave kids tasting new foods!”



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Grange Exhausting Fundraiser Continues

BY DON MCLEAN



Broad Brook Grange is pleased to have raised more than three-quarters of its \$10,000 goal to assist the Community Center in funding the "Ansul" kitchen exhaust system. The total price tag for the system is about \$80,000.

The Grange made a pledge to the Broad

smoke and fumes to the outdoors—and even contains a fire-suppression system.

The Grange organization has traditionally been the principal user of the cooking range, in preparation of its public brunches and sugar-on-snow supper, and thus felt it an appropriate part of the renovation to sup-

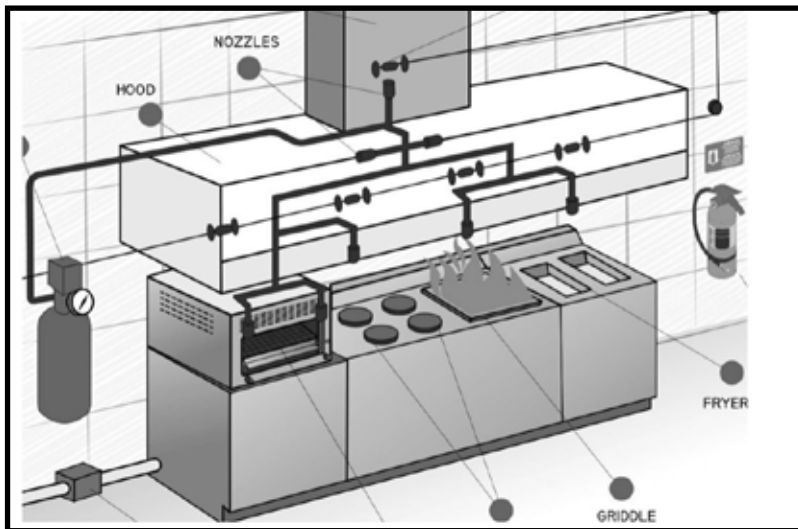
port. After the building re-opens in 2022, the B B C C hopes the kitchen will be used for event catering, cooking classes, and more

community meals, all of which will require the Ansul system.

To start the fundraiser, the Grange donated \$1,000 toward the pledge, hoping to inspire the community to add to the donations.

To date, over two dozen people have donated a total of \$8,300. We hope you'll join in to help us raise the last \$1,700 and reach our goal of \$10,000.

Tax-deductible donations go directly to the BBCC, with credit being given for this project. Checks may be made payable to BBCC and sent to treasurer Sandy Garland at 1968 Weatherhead Hollow Rd., Guilford, VT 05301. Please write "Ansul" on the memo line. You may also donate online at: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=DVJAC5USKEPMW.



A dramatic illustration of an Ansul system

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Library Expands to Meet Growing Needs

BY LYNN GREEN

The Guilford Free Library has come a long way since it opened its doors in 1892. The 146 library cards issued that year to patrons arriving by foot and on horseback to borrow just under 600 volumes have ballooned to 2,179 for those of us coming to use computers, high speed Wi-Fi and about 4,500 volumes. To say the library, still in the same building (with one small addition) is bursting at the seams trying to accommodate a modern community would be an understatement.

Plans are now underway for an addition that will open up new spaces for children and adults and allow for expanded programming on all levels. "Libraries are dynamic, as are their buildings," explained Librarian Cathi Wilken. "The larger space will allow us to offer a range of new programs for children and adults, as well as to add to our collections. Right now, those of us attending meetings or programs are squashed into the children's area where we have to rearrange the furniture to get as much room as possible."

The preliminary design, by Goldstone Architecture of Bennington, is for a two-story addition that will double the footprint of the existing building. The

current space will house the adult collection and serve as a reading room; the top floor of the addition will be a new children's space; and the bottom floor will be not only for library use but for all kinds of programming from community groups. The bottom floor will have its own entrance so the space can be used independently of regular library hours. The plan includes an elevator, new bathroom and kitchenette.

For Library Trustees John Shaw and Nika Fotopoulous, both of whom are on the library expansion committee and who home



Guilford campers crowd into the library on a rainy day, a situation that will be remedied once the new addition is complete.

school their children, will open up whole new possibilities for the community. The library is an important part of their programming and the expansion will only increase the number of children who can participate. "We had to stop our out-

reach to other families because of space constraints," explained Shaw. He's looking forward to being able to offer a wider range of activities in the new space not only for this group but for all children.

Fotopoulous is especially excited about having an area that will be available to the community for all kinds of activities. "This extension creates distinct spaces," she explained. "It is especially

Continued on next page

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Checks can be made out to the Guilford Gazette and mailed to us c/o Wanda Atomanuck, 212 Stony Hill Rd., Guilford, VT 05301.

We can also always use

more volunteers. Writers, editors, folks with ideas for stories, and even a hand with label-

A recent Gazette Folding Party

ing the Gazettes before they go in the mail are welcome.



Community Calendar

ONGOING:

Every Tuesday

- 11 AM ZOOM STORYTIME

Library-Cathi Wilken & Laura Lawson Tucker present a program of songs, finger-plays, books and activities for babies, toddlers and older siblings (free) Info: 257-4603 Email staff@guilfordfreelibraryvt.org to request the zoom link.

Every second Tuesday of the month

- 9 AM GAZETTE MEETING At the Guilford Country Store. Help plan the next issue.

3rd Wednesday of the month.

- 6:30 PM TALK ABOUT BOOKS Library. Books are available to borrow from the library. (free).

Every Thursday

- 5-6 PM GUILFORD CARES FOOD PANTRY at Guilford Fairgrounds. Info: call Pat Haine 257-0626

Library Expands, continued

important because of all the people and their new programming we'll be able to accommodate."

According to Richard Wizansky, a member of the library board and the Guilford Selectboard, the financing for the addition is included in the town's capital improvement plan and is a combination of state and

federal grants, as well as an estate bequest. "We're now applying for more grants but an important part of this project will be participation by the community," he said. A fundraising drive will begin in the spring of 2022 with plans to start building the following spring. "Community support is such an important part of this project," he commented, "because this is such an important resource for all of us."

"This will still be our friendly library," Cathi Wilken pointed out. "But with much more space."



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*The doors to the shed make the perfect easel
for this pre-K student!.*

